

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
CORPUS CHRISTI DIVISION

JAMES H. MCCLENTON

v.

TEXAS DEP'T OF CRIM. JUSTICE

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C.A. NO. C-07-154

**MEMORANDUM AND RECOMMENDATION TO DISMISS**

This is a civil rights action filed by a prisoner pursuant to 42 U.S.C. § 1983. For the reasons stated herein, it is respectfully recommended that the Court dismiss the action because plaintiff has failed to prosecute his claims.

**I. BACKGROUND**

Plaintiff, a prisoner proceeding pro se, filed his civil rights complaint on March 20, 2007. (D.E. 1). On April 2, 2007, a notice of deficient pleading was sent to him indicating that he either had to pay the \$350.00 filing fee, or file a motion to proceed in forma pauperis with a certified copy of his inmate trust fund account statement. (D.E. 4). The notice of deficient pleading warns plaintiff that if he “fails to comply on time, the Court may dismiss this case for want of prosecution.” Id.

On April 30, 2007, an order to show cause was issued requiring plaintiff to “correct the deficient pleading, or alternatively, show cause as to why this action

should not be dismissed for want of prosecution.” (D.E. 8, at 1). To date, plaintiff has not responded to the order to show cause. Plaintiff has filed other cases in this Court that have similarly been dismissed for failure to prosecute his claim. See McClenton v. Warden, 06cv236 (habeas petition); McClenton v. McConnell, 06cv322 (§ 1983 action).

## **II. DISCUSSION**

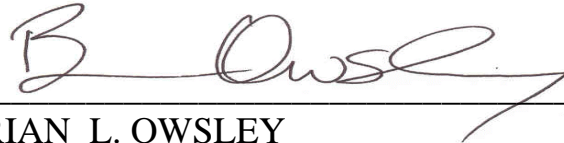
An action may be dismissed if the plaintiff fails to prosecute it, or to comply with any court order. Fed. R. Civ. P. 41(b); see also Martinez v. Johnson, 104 F.3d 769, 772 (5th Cir. 1997) (holding district courts have the power to sua sponte dismiss a cause of action for failure to prosecute). “The power to invoke this sanction is necessary in order to prevent undue delays in the disposition of pending cases and to avoid congestion in the calendars of the [d]istrict [c]ourts.” Martinez, 104 F.3d at 772 (quoting Link v. Wabash R.R., 370 U.S. 626, 630-31 (1962); McCullough v. Lynaugh, 835 F.2d 1126, 1127 (5th Cir. 1988)).

It appears that plaintiff has failed to comply with orders of this Court. It is therefore respectfully recommended that the Court dismiss his action for failure to prosecute his claim.

### **III. RECOMMENDATION**

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully recommended that the Court dismiss plaintiff's action for failure to prosecute.

Respectfully submitted this 24th day of May 2007.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Owsley", is written over a horizontal line.

BRIAN L. OWSLEY  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

### **NOTICE TO PARTIES**

The Clerk will file this Memorandum and Recommendation and transmit a copy to each party or counsel. Within **TEN (10) DAYS** after being served with a copy of the Memorandum and Recommendation, a party may file with the Clerk and serve on the United States Magistrate Judge and all parties, written objections, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C); Rule 72(b) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure; and Article IV, General Order No. 2002-13, United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas.

A party's failure to file written objections to the proposed findings, conclusions, and recommendation in a magistrate judge's report and recommendation within **TEN (10) DAYS** after being served with a copy shall bar that party, except upon grounds of *plain error*, from attacking on appeal the unobjected-to proposed factual findings and legal conclusions accepted by the district court. Douglass v. United Servs. Auto. Ass'n, 79 F.3d 1415 (5th Cir. 1996) (en banc).